(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware of the functioning of the arms department where the purchasing of confiscated weapons are done, which is very slow and inefficiency is observed; and

(e) whether Government propose to upgrade the functioning of the new Customs House and all its departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The records of the all the different departments of the new Customs House, New Delhi are not computerized. Records of some of the departments/branches in new Customs House are computerized, namely, Service Centre, IGM, Apprising, Audit, Assistant Commissioner, Bank, Examination, Bonds, Licence, DEEC, Baggage, SAPTA, DEPB, DFRC, EPCG, Re-Import, MIS Reports, System Manager, Preventive Officer, Alert and Risk Management System.

(c) Records of other departments of new Customs House will be computerized in the next stage of upgradation.

(d) No complaints alleging inefficiency of the arms department has been received by the Government.

(e) It is proposed to upgrade the functioning of the Computer Infrastructure in the new Customs House, New Delhi and the Project is already at the final stage.

Implementation of schemes

†4362. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some promises had been made by him during the budget year, 2006-07 regarding schemes such as Bharat Nirman, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana, National Rural Health Scheme, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Rashtriya Gramin Rozgar Yojana, Sampooma Gramin Rozgar Yojana, Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarozgar

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Yojana, Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, irrigation, AIBP, RIDF etc; and

(b) the latest position of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Abolition of Settlement Commission

4363. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the system of Settlement Commission is being abolished w.e.f. 31st March, 2008;

(b) if so, what will happen to the pending cases;

(c) what are the total number of applications all over the country, charge-wise pending as on 31st March, 2007; and

(d) what actions are proposed by his Ministry to guide those who have filed settlement petitions in view of change-over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. The Finance Act, 2007 seeks to streamline the process of settlement of cases, so as to ensure expeditious disposal.

(b) Time limits have been prescribed in the Finance Act, 2007 disposal of pending applications.

(c) The details of pending applications in the Income Tax Settlement Commission and the Customs and Central Excise Settlement Commission are given in the Statement (See below).

(d) The proposed changes relating to settlement of cases have already been explained in the Memorandum explaining the provisions as contained in Finance Bill, 2007. Further explanations will be issued as and when required.